[MR. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

present moment, owing to the wording of the resolution, we do not know what is going to be done in the matter of authorship. That may lead to further difficulties. Consequently, I think the best way would be to say on behalf of Government that we do not oppose the resolution but are prepared to carry out the principle so far as it may be found feasible.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI: Sir, on the assurance that has been given just now by the Director of Public Instruction, I withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

RESOLUTION *RE.* ESTABLISHMENT OF A TEACHING AND RESIDENTIAL UNIVERSITY IN TRAVANCORE.

PRESIDENT: The next resolution relates to the establishment of a Teaching and residential university in Travancore. The resolution runs as follows:

"That this Council recommends to the Government the immediate necessity of establishing a teaching and residential University in Travancore and requests Government to take prompt action for the fulfilment of the above object."

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move the following resolution:

"That this Council recommends to the Government the immediate necessity of establishing a teaching and residential University in Travancore and requests Government to take prompt action for the fulfilment of the above object."

I am moving this resolution not for inviting a discussion as in the case of my former resolution, but to see that it is seriously taken up for consideration and accepted by the Council. I am glad to say that my position to-day—

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: May I know why the mover wants to take away the word "immediate". I did not hear him mention it.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: There is the word "immediate" in the printed paper. The President read it; I read it. If Mr. Raman Pillai sees any difficulty, I shall read it once more, and twenty times, if he wants to understand it. (*Laughter*)

I am glad to say that my position to-day is stronger than what I thought it would be when I gave notice of the resolution. The idea of a Travancore University necessarily involves our separation from the parent stem and at the first blush it is natural that we should be unwilling to be cut off from the educational activities of Madras. The thought necessarily strikes us that, if a Travancore University ever comes into being, it cannot be anything other than a feeble imitation of a bad model rendered feebler still by the stigmatised surroundings of an out-of-the-way town. I was personally of that same view when the late administration evinced interest in the subject by the appointment of a special committee and, as my opinion was found to be in agreement with those of several discerning men in Travancore, I opposed the idea in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. But I stand before you to-day with a different conviction and I may be permitted to say that the change has been caused by the wholesale transformation that has

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taken place in all the Universities in India. The publication of the Sadler Commission Report, the defects inherent in the system of conferring degrees on all candidates who come out successful in the public examinations, the readiness on the part of the Government of India and the Provincial Governments to help the formation of new Universities, the demand for new Universities on a linguistic basis, and the widespread desire to establish residential colleges—all these have contributed to modify our vision of the future. The Allahabad University has broken up its jurisdiction and divided it between those of Benares and Lahore; and another University is likely to be established at Agra. The Andhra scheme is nearing its fruition and we see from the report of the proceedings of the Madras Legislative Council published in the daily papers that a Telugu University is almost an accomplished fact. The people of Rajaputana and Central India are loud in their demand for a separate University. The Tamil country will not be left behind in this race for higher education, and I am sure that the people of the Tamil Districts will soon be able to persuade the ministry in this behalf through their representatives in the Legislative Council. The Canarese language is safe in the keeping of the Mysore University. But Malayalam is not likely to meet with any great encouragement at the hands of the Minister of Education and the Government of Madras, as it is the language but of a single one out of the 26 Districts of the Presidency.

The resolution passed by the Senate of the Madras University in October 1921 shows clearly the direction of the current. That resolution urged the establishment of more Universities, and the redistribution of the territorial area of the existing University, and emphasised the creation of at least one University for a linguistic area. Mr. Patro's new Bill is a notice to quit and, if we do not voluntarily secede while yet we have time, we shall be driven out in the mirky night and made to grope in the dark. We should not, therefore, outstay the welcome given to us by our friends in Madras. I am strengthened in my conviction by the opinions of the educational experts of Dewan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nair's Committee, a copy of whose report the Government were pleased to supply me with. The report is a short one, clear and business-like, and it is a matter for encouragement that out of the 15 members who constituted that committee, so many as 11 were in favour of a University in Travancore. I am glad to find some of them among us in this Council.

Let us now consider a few of the important aspects of this urgent question. During the last five years a few thousands of students have passed the School Final Examination. Of these the large majority have applied for admission to the several colleges in the State. These colleges have not been able to take them all and the worst sinner was the premier educational institution in the State. The Council will remember the insistent complaints against the stubborn attitude of the college authorities made in the Assembly, in the Council, and elsewhere by the representatives of the people. I have myself had my humble share of

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work in that direction and I have several times received replies from Government in the usual language of vagueness and non-committal. Sir, the deputation of citizens that waited on the present Dewan with regard to that question and the sympathetic response given by him are fresh in our memory. But with all this steady endeavour on the part of the people, the number of students who are obliged to seek their fortunes in the colleges outside the State shows no decrease. If we put the number of such students at 500, which surely does not err on the side of being too many, it means that at the rate of Rs. 600 per head per year the State loses Rs. 3 lakhs annually. This has been going on for a great many years. The drain has been enormous and the well-known poverty of our people sheds a melancholy light on this compulsory emigration. The health of Madras or Trichinopoly or Madura is liable to great fluctuations and the Malayalam-speaking student feels a temporary banishment from society in a place where the language and social habits are essentially different from his own. This kind of environment will seldom call forth the best powers of the intellect.

I now pass on to the question of admission to the Madras University when the present University Bill becomes law. The Madras Minister's speech warrants the apprehension that the entrance examination of the present Intermediate standard may be entrusted to other agencies than the University. In all likelihood, that agency will be the Madras Education Department which is controlled by the Director of Public Instruction under the guidance of the Minister for Education. Situations might arise when the Madras Director will have to inspect the Secondary Colleges in Travancore which prepare students for the Madras Intermediate Examination. Anomalies of this nature are sure to land the State in various difficulties and no Travancorean can feel happy in submitting to the final decrees of an elected minister who is not amenable to any kind of control in Travancore. It should also be borne in mind that, if there arises any difficulties due to want of accommodation, the strength of party organisations in the Madras Presidency would require their own students to be preferred to those who emigrate from Travancore, basing their claims on sympathy and sufferance. These obstacles will be aggravated when our State passes under the direct control of the Government of India and thereby loses the political connection that it bears to the Government of Fort St. George.

Sir, the linguistic argument precludes all hope of the needs of the Malayalam-speaking people being attended to in the Telugu or Tamil Districts. They have therefore to start a University of their own; and if there is any place on the Malabar coast between Gokaranam and Kanyakumari where a University can be established with the minimum expenditure, that place is Trivandrum. We have here one of the finest First Grade Colleges in all India, a Women's College, a Training College a Law College, an Ayurvedic College and a Sanskrit College. The number of books in our libraries compare very favourably with that in all the educational institutions of Madras put together. We have large

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laboratories for the teaching of chemistry and physics to which the agricultural laboratory now at Quilon may be added. Our observatory is one of the oldest in India. Trivandrum has a beautiful museum and botanical gardens. We have here magnificent educational buildings built at great cost which will legitimately form a nucleus to the new University. There are High Schools situated within short distances from one another, and if, in the new University, Malayalam is to be recognised as one of the media of instruction, the net work of Malayalam middle schools and high schools with which the country is studded from one end to the other is sure to afford abundant facilities. Trivandrum commands easy access to the mountains and the sea. Its suburbs afford opportunities for manly exercises in the open country and shallow backwaters. It possesses good drinking water whose supply will be soon increased by the Trivandrum water-works, and it also commands an efficient system of natural drainage. The Travancore University Committee has recommended Aruvikkara, a place some 7 miles to the north-east of Trivandrum for locating the University. The location is a point to be considered later on. But I venture to hold that the novelty of the scheme and the idyllic picturesqueness of the place do not justify the expenditure of several hundreds of lakhs on the construction of a new University town in the interior country. This proposal is all the more to be rejected when it is remembered that there are several hundreds of acres adjoining the premises of H. H. The Maha Raja's College which belong to the Government, though in the occupation of other departments of the public service. The Commandant's bungalow and premises, the military offices, the Nair Brigade and Body-guard parade grounds, the Chief Engineer's bungalow, the Darbar Physician's bungalow, the Hostel premises, all these together will be quite ample for the accommodation of the University buildings. The Commandant of the Nair Brigade may be given a suitable building at Pangode, the Chief Engineer can very well live in the Nantancode bungalow, and the Darbar Physician can migrate to the Taikad bungalow, the old quarters of the Darbar Physician.

One of the most important objections that may be raised against the idea of a University in Travancore is its tendency to isolation and the small value that may be attached to its degrees by the world outside. The reputation of an institution does not always depend upon the political importance of the State in which it is situated. It depends much more on its professors and its contribution to the fund of human knowledge. Ujjain and Nalanda, Kanyakuja and Takshasila were famous because of their culture and not because of the military prestige of the respective States. The Universities of Leyden and Geneva and those of medieval Italy and the German States never suffered in the estimation of the world on account of their political difficulties. You maintain your hearth and your home for your own purposes and not to enlist the approbation of others. Benares and Rameswaram, Jerusalem and Mecca attract hundreds of thousands of men and women not because of political or commercial advantages. We learn from books of history that

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captive Greece conquered its conqueror and decrepit Rome was venerated as the eternal city. A University stands for a certain type of knowledge and tradition; and if all the Universities of the world are cast in the same mould and conduct themselves in the same stereotyped fashion, the progress of civilisation will become well-neigh impossible. Intrinsic merit is therefore the safe and the only test. Now the question is whether Travancore or Kerala has anything of value to contribute to the culture of the world. A good deal has been said and written on the individuality of Indian civilisation which has withstood the invasions of numerous armies and the ravages of time. It has also been said that Travancore has kept its traditions in their entirety, though it has always been ready to assimilate the best part of Western science and literature. It is here that the "wine of Western knowledge has been preserved in the bottles of the East." Ours is the Indian State which can boast of the largest percentage of literacy. And ours again is the State whose ruler traces the continuity of his Royal line to the pristine days of the Epic age and commands the love and loyalty of his subjects to a degree to which even in India there are very few parallels.

Travancore is, therefore, in a position of fiduciary responsibility, and when we realise the identity of interest between Malabar, Cochin and Travancore with their common language and communal co-operation, with powerful organisations like the Nayar Samajam, the Christian Association, the S. N. D. P. Yogam and the Yogakshema Sabha, with the rights and liabilities of Jenmies residing in Malabar, within the territories of Cochin and Travancore, the increasing number of intermarriages among the people of the three political divisions, and above all, the unifying influence of the Paramount Power, we can legitimately look forward to the time when the Travancore University will be transformed into a Kerala University. But I maintain that, even if these aspirations cannot be realised in a very short time, there is ample scope for a University in Travancore for the benefit of its own people. Universities like States may be large or small. The following table would show the number of students in certain Universities:

		Number of students.
1.	Mcgill University.	... 1,400
2.	Kyoto.	... 1,116
3.	Upsala.	... 1,500
4.	Kyushu.	... 259
5.	Acadia.	... 216
6	Galgary.	... 100

These figures are not the latest. It is interesting to note that Zurich has a University for a population of three and a half lakhs and Basel another such institution for a population of a hundred thousand souls. I hope that 40 lakhs of people and 2,000 students already receiving collegiate education within the State and some 500 students learning in colleges outside, is more than sufficient to justify the demand for a University in Travancore.

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The tendency to isolation can be checked by maintaining a high standard of learning and teaching. The system of appointing examiners from outside and occasional interchange of professors will prevent its becoming insular. I looked up the calendars of the Universities of Madras and Mysore and found that a very large percentage of examiners were outsiders, from other parts of India and from Europe. The interchange of professors is not a new idea either. We find that in the University of Geneva, whose political importance is not very great, there were foreign professors almost as a rule. We find Cartwright and Melville from England, Scaliger from Leyden and Necker from France among the list of professors in Geneva. If India produces cotton, Germany chemicals, and England cutlery, Russia wheat and France sugar, and if each of these countries supplies the wants of the others, there can very well be an international change of professors whose freight is comparatively cheaper than most commodities.

The next point to be considered is the financial aspect of the proposal. I should request the House not to be overwhelmed by the magnitude of the amount prophesied by the dissenting minority of the Travancore University Committee. Their figure is the result of the powerful magnifying glass of the Aruvikkara project. We cannot carry the University to Aruvikkara any more than we can carry Trivandrum to Quilon. The abandonment of the present educational buildings will be a great loss to the country and a great obligation imposed on future generations. I have discussed the matter with some eminent educationists and I believe that the establishment of a University can be effected without any great increase of expenditure. A University is not the sum total of its great buildings with their spires and towers and there is absolutely no use in thinking that a Travancore University should possess at its very inception the same number and size of buildings and appliances as there are in Oxford or Harvard. Nor need there be all the faculties. In addition to the courses of study already—

RAO BAHADUR K. V. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR: Sir, may I rise to a point of correction? I do not think that the committee gave any estimate at all of the cost.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: I refer to the figure given in the dessenting minute of the minority of the University Committee in which it is said Rs. 300 odd lakhs are necessary. I allude to that. What has been published under the auspices of the committee contains that information. In addition to the courses of study already followed in the existing colleges, some of the applied sciences and certain languages like Tamil, Syriac and Arabic may have to be added to make the University useful to all classes of people. The Travancore University should encourage those departments of knowledge which are most appropriate to the needs of the country and those others like Indian philosophy and Indian medicine for the encouragement of which it possesses special facilities.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: May I know from Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai how many people speak Syriac?

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[Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: I did not say that only living languages should be taught. Some languages would be useful to the people at large for ordinary purposes and others are necessary for religious and cultural purposes. Syriac belongs to the latter description. I hope MR. K. P. Raman Pillai will be satisfied now.

PRESIDENT: May I draw your attention to the time limit?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: What is the type of University we should have and what are to be its ideals? No person will deny that that ideal is education and enlightenment. Knowledge is truth and therefore it is idle to set up disputes between Eastern and Western knowledge. It rises above the conditions of local prejudices and sentimental colourings as the mighty mountain peaks rise above the snow-line. The laws of physics and the rules of mathematics undergo no change with the differences of latitude or longitude. Human heart is everywhere the same, and poets and philosophers do not belong to a particular nation any more than the sun and the moon. Our University should therefore be a place for the co-operation of the arts and sciences, of a blending of what is best in all systems, of what is of abiding value in the thoughts and achievements of all ages and all countries. But every race has its own peculiarities stamped upon its face by the hand of history. It is impossible to erase them. These peculiarities form the traditions of a race and the genius of a people; and when they are tampered with, consciously or unconsciously, the results become undesirable. Such results are often produced when an alien civilisation is superimposed on a civilised people. I am unable to think of a more generous and enlightened nation than the British, and no State has done more for its dependencies than what the English have done for India or Egypt. The English gave these two ancient peoples the best education they could give, but the process of Anglisisation has turned out to be a mistake. I shall cite the authority of two eminent men, both of whom are no mean panegyrists of English achievement. Says Lord Curzon:

"We are all of us familiar with the half-denationalised type of humanity who has lost the virtues of his own system, while assimilating the vices of another. He is a sorrowful creature, whether he be a European or an Asiatic. We know the man who cloakes the shallowness of his intellectual equipment in a cloud of vague generalisations, or who has acquired the phraseology of a foreign literature without so much as touching the helm of its thought".

And Earl Cromer speaking of education in Egypt observes;

"The truth is that in passing through the European educational mill the young Egyptian Moslem loses his Islamism, or, at all events, the best part of it. He cuts himself adrift from the sheet-anchor of his creed. He no longer believes that he is always in the presence of his Creator to whom he will some day have to render an account of his actions."

Too great an emphasis can never be laid on the necessity to prevent these and similar evils in the educational system of our country. The frame-work of education should be those beliefs, ideals and traditions those moral and intellectual qualities, that are embedded in the constitution and history of a people. A faithful adherence to this basic principle is quite in harmony with the highest development in science, literature

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and art. The acquisition of knowledge is no aimless diversion. It has its object, immediate or remote, and in a country like Travancore it is the University alone which can solve the problems of poverty, ignorance, and racial and religious antagonism. It has been contended that—

"The standard of utility is a false and mischevouis standard invented by short sighted greed, and certain, if it is accepted, to paralyse and kill the University that accepts it; that it cultivates the branches for profit, and neglects the root; that it is the timber, not the growing tree, which serves for ships".

But this view has its own limitations and as pointed out by the Haldane Committee the very charters of incorporation have often expressly laid upon the University the duty of dealing with higher instruction for industrial purposes. Dr. Rashdall writes in his famous book on the Medieval Universities of Europe:

"We have been told that the great business of a University is considered to be liberal as distinct from professional education. We have seen that many Universities were almost exclusively occupied with professional education."

The practice of Western countries is shown by the courses of study pursued in the Universities of Bristol, Birmingham and Manchester, in most of the German and American Universities, and those of Waseda and Tokio in Japan. But we need not pursue an avenue of theoretical perfection. We want culture, true and liberal, but we have need also for the results of scientific research to fill the stomach as well as to embellish the head and the heart. We want industrial laboratories, vocational schools and technical institutes. We want evening classes and extra-mural instruction; and we want the University to occupy its place as the coping stone of a vast edifice for the material and moral regeneration of the country.

The attainment of the above objects depends on the type of University which we are going to have. An examining University consisting of scattered colleges betokens an indiscriminate knowledge—quantity rather than quality. Notwithstanding the labours of the University Commission of 1902, the Indian Universities remained—

"Not corporations of scholars but corporations of administrators. They had nothing to do with the training of men, but only with the examining of candidates. The system led the student to value the discipline of his training not for its own sake, but mainly as a means for obtaining marketable qualifications."

Cardinal Newman preferred residential Universities to examining Universities even though the latter tested the candidate's acquaintance with every science under the sun. Dr. Rashdall would insist upon the Universities bringing together, face to face, in living intercourse, teacher and teacher, teacher and student, student and student. This concept fits in with the ideals of ancient Indian Education and conforms to the recommendation of the Calcutta University Commission. This is the only ideal which will commend itself to this Council. Our boys and girls require the help, the association and the guidance of their teachers. They should live within the University premises and have every facility for enjoying the advantages of a larger life, with the tutorial system sufficiently developed, with the professors exercising their healthy influence,

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inside and outside the walls, with the full compliment of debating societies and recreation clubs, with opportunities for forming liberal tastes and life-long friendships, the commonwealth of intellect living together in an atmosphere of learning. The hall system should be compulsory and provision made for the teaching of the different religions within the University premises with a sense of mutual respect instead of repulsion. The memory of such a life must be made so agreeable and pleasant that older persons should desire to shake off for a while the troubles and turmoils of life by an occasional dip into the old fountains and catch the infection of rejuvenation. We should lay our money more on men than on brick and mortar. The teachers should be above want and above the temptation of waiting upon the pleasure of persons clothed with administrative authority. The academic body of the University ought to possess the entire administrative power within its walls. Love of work should become the ruling passion of the teacher and the taught, and provision must be made for the noble use of leisure. The rising generation requires an understanding of the actual conditions of life in our country and should be taught to avoid those expensive tastes and habits which form the chief evil of modern education. Simplicity leads to spirituality and discipline is a condition precedent to healthy growth. I learn that in the Mahomedan University of El-Azhar at Cairo the boys and teachers lead a simple, austere, unconventional life. That is the ideal of the Visvabharati which is intended to be a source of inspiration to the world, a corrective to the luxurious tastes of materialistic nations. The education of El-Azhar, says Charles Thwynge, is an education freer than the American Public School or than the State University system recognises or uses. The American system has seldom gone further than to give free lunches to underfed pupils, but the Mahomedan Universities at Cairo offer free bed and free board. Neither is there any charge made for tution. I am not prepared to advocate free board and free tution to all young men and women who seek admission to the University, but I do advocate that, when poverty stands in the way of deserving boys and girls who are actuated by a genuine desire for the acquisition of knowledge, the University may lend a helping hand as its funds would permit.

The training of women is another direction in which the University has to work out its own programme in a manner worthy of our civilisation and the lessons we have learnt from the experiences of the West. The work of giving them increased facilities for higher education ought to go on hand in hand with such useful training which will make the Indian woman the queen of the household. The figure of women seen through "democratic vistas", launching forth like men amid real, independent stormy life is surely attractive; but the gentler sex should remember that, as observed by the Judges in the famous case of *Charlton* V. *Lings*, their exclusion from some of the active vocations is not on account of their inferiority, but from a desire to promote decorum and that in this way it is rather a privilege and homage paid to the sex "*honestatis privilegium*". Woman should be educated no

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less as mother and wife and queen, as the saviour of men than as a mere bread-winner. This would be in entire accord with the lofty notions of womanhood which permeate the life, the history and the traditions of our country.

I do not propose to go into the details of the scheme of establishing a University. Questions of organisation, administration, courses of study, and the all-important subject of finance have to be considered in their various aspects. And if the Council will find its way to accept this resolution, one of our own committees will have to sit for several days for the decision of these important questions. I shall not take up any more time of this Council at present. Before I resume my seat you will permit me to read a passage from a letter contributed to the Madras Christian College by one of the most selfless educationists of our time to whom South India owes a deep debt of gratitude—Rev. William Miller. He wrote:

> "Certainly the rise of other Universities in the mofussil ought to be kept steadily in view. Some of the most efficient constituent colleges ought in time to be the nucleus of such Universities. I fear that the time is by no means near when this hope can be realised in the mofussil. However it is about a quarter of a century since I told the Public Service Commission that it was time even then for Ceylon, Travancore and Mysore to be thinking about establishing Universities for themselves".

It is this valuable opinion which has been supported by Doctor Mitchell, Mr. Hodgson and the Travancore University Committee. I hope the Council will accept the resolution and this Council itself will have the good fortune to witness the completion of the scheme of a University for Travancore and Kerala, diffusing its rays throughout the country, the citadel of culture, the source of inspiration, and the culminating glory of the illustrious reign of our Gracious Sovereign who will infuse into it the spirit of generous enlightenment and renowned cosmopolitanism, for the good of his people and the welfare of the world.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR: I beg to second the motion.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR: Sir, before the House begins to deliberate on the resolution, I should like to ask Mr. Velu Pillai whether he wants education for its own sake or from a pecuniary point of view.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: I sat down before Mr. Karayalar has risen from his seat to ask the question. It is my privilege under the rules not to answer. However, in this case, I am prepared to tell him that I have made my position clear in my speech which, I daresay, a graduate like Mr. Karayalar could have easily understood.

MR. PAUL V. DANIEL: Sir, I rise to oppose the motion. In opposing the motion, I do not think that it is advisable that I should deliver a lengthy speech, because, when the cry in this House is so much for economy and retrenchment, we should be going beyond our limits if we make unnecessarily lengthy speeches; for speeches will have to

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be printed and that means wastage, especially when there is so much of repetition. So, I shall simply give the points on which I wanted to oppose the motion.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Sir, the lengthiness of the speech is left to the Chair and not to the members.

MR. PAUL. V. DANIEL: Sir, I am one of those who are *absolutely interested* in the establishment of a teaching and residential University in Travancore, but, Sir, from what I learn regarding the financial condition of our country, I am of opinion that the establishment of a University at present is not possible.

The grounds of my opposition are two. The one relates to finance and the other to principle.

The establishment of a University will involve enormous expenditure running perhaps to crores. All the members will be able to appreciate the exact import of my statement, if they would for a moment fix their attention on the equipment of a modern University, possessing a hall-mark which would be respected throughout British India and beyond it. Besides, as the University contemplated is a residential one, proper and separate accommodation with mess arrangements for the different communities of the country must be procured. Does the state of our finances permit us to spend so much money on a new enterprise? Even the departments existing at present are run with great difficulty. We cannot tax the people more than the limit of their endurance. I must further point out that most of the income of the European and American Universities is derived from *endowments*. The people take up the subject, start the University by public subscription and endowment and the Government lends help.

The other important thing that I wish to lay before this Council is the principle that lies at the root of the educational policy of Great Britain at home, *viz.*, that the *primary duty* of a Government is not so much the spending of money on the creation to facilities for collegiate education as giving compulsory elementary education to all people. Time and again have the Government been pressed by the Council and the Assembly to make primary education compulsory. If the Government cannot find money to carry out one of its elementary duties in the field of education, how is it to capitalise this great and costly enterprise? In my opinion our finances are so slender that we cannot treat ourselves to the luxury of a University. The best course to be adopted *at present*, considering the financial condition of our State, is to affiliate, if *possible*, our colleges with London, Oxford or Cambridge or any such University of Great Britain.

RAO BAHADUR K. V. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR: I want to know from Mr. Daniel whether it is possible to affiliate our colleges with London or other Universities.

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MR. PAUL V. DANIEL: I say, 'if it is possible'.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: I would like to ask Mr. Daniel why he should presume that the proposed University should not bear the same hall-mark as that of the Madras University or any other University

PRESIDENT: Are you putting the question to him?

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Yes; I ask him to explain it.

PRESIDENT: He has sat down.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN: സർ, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒരു സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള മിസ്റ്റർ വേലുപ്പിള്ളയുടെ പ്രമേയം വളരെ നല്ലതുതന്നെ. അതിന്റെ തത്വത്തോട് ഞാൻ യോജിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഗവർൺമെന്റിന് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ പണത്തിനുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകളും ജനക്ഷേമത്തിനായി രാജ്യത്തിൽ വളരെ ധനവ്യയം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതിന്റെ ഗൌരവമേറിയ കാര്യങ്ങളും ആലോചിക്കുമ്പോൾ, അധികധനവ്യയമുള്ള സർവകലാശാലയുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവർൺമെന്റ് പ്രവേശിക്കുന്നതു യുക്തമായിരിക്കയില്ല. ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം സിദ്ധിച്ചവരുടെ ശതമാനം സെൻസസ്സ് റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽനിന്നു മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്നതുപോലെ, അയൽരാജ്യങ്ങളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് അഭിമാനകരമാംവണ്ണം വർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കണം. എന്നാൽ സമുദ്രതീരത്തുനിന്ന് ഉൾഭാഗത്തെക്കു കടക്കുന്തോറും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം കുറഞ്ഞുകുറഞ്ഞു വരുന്നുവെൻകുടി സെൻസസ്സ് റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. പട്ടണങ്ങളേയും സമുദ്രതീരത്തോട് അടുത്ത പ്രദേശങ്ങളേയും ഒഴിച്ചു കണക്കാക്കുന്നതായാൽ, രാജ്യത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസസ്ഥിതി എത്രയും പരിതാപകരമാണെന്നു പറയാതെ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഉൾഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ, വിശിഷ്യ മുവാറ്റുപുഴ, തൊടുപുഴ, കുന്നത്തുനാട് മുതലായ താലൂക്കുകളിൽ സാമാന്യവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനുപോലും ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വേണ്ട സൌകര്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കീട്ടില്ല. പുലയർ, പറയർ മുതലായ പല വർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾക്കും സ്കൂളിൽ പ്രവേശനവും ഫീസു സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള ആനുകൂല്യങ്ങളും നല്കീട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിൽ അവർ തരെ മുന്നോട്ടു വന്നിട്ടില്ല. അവരുടെ ദാരിദ്ര്യം അവരെ അതിന് അനുവദിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഒരു നേരത്തെ ആഹാരത്തിനുള്ള വകയും പുസ്തകങ്ങളും ഈ വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കു നല്കുന്നതിനും ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ ധാരാളം വിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനും ഗവർൺമെന്റ് വളരെ ധനവ്യയം ചെയ്യേണ്ടത് ആവശ്യമായിരിക്കുന്നു. എന്തെന്നാൽ രാജ്യത്തെ പ്രധാന താഴ്ന്നവർഗ്ഗക്കാരും ഭൂരിപക്ഷക്കാരുമായ കൃഷിക്കാർ അധികവും നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിലത്രെ താമസിക്കുന്നതു്. അവരുടെയും, ഈ രാജ്യത്തിൽ ഐശ്വ-

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ത്തിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന വർഗ്ഗങ്ങളുടേയും ക്ഷേമത്തിന്നായി തലമുറതലമുറയായി പരിശ്രമിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന പുലയർ പറയർ മുതലായ വർഗ്ഗങ്ങളുടേയും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്നായി ധനവ്യയം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു ഗവർൺമെൻറിന്റെ ഒഴിച്ചു കൂടാത്ത ധർമ്മമത്രെ. അവരുടെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ശോചനീയമായ നിലനമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തിന് ഒട്ടുംതന്നെ ഭൂഷണമല്ല.

ഇതിനും പുറമെ ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ ഗതാഗതത്തിന്നു വേണ്ട റോഡുകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നും ഉത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേക്കു റെയിൽവെ തുറക്കണമെന്നും ജനങ്ങൾ മുടച്ചയാതി മുറവിളിക്കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഈ വക കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കു ചിലവു ചെയ്യാൻ ഗവർൺമെൻറിന്നു പണസംബന്ധമായ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുനിമിത്തം സാധിക്കാതിരിക്കെ, അഖിലധികം കാളേജുകളും അനേകം ഹൈസ്കൂളുകളും ഉള്ള ഈ രാജ്യത്ത് ഉൽകൃഷ്ടവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്നു കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യം നല്കുവാനായി മറ്റ് അത്യാവശ്യമായ ചിലവുകളെ കുറച്ചു സർവകലാശാലയ്ക്കു വേണ്ടി വലിയ സംഖ്യകൾ ചിലവു ചെയ്യുവാൻ ഒരുങ്ങുന്നത് ഒരിക്കലും യുക്തമല്ല. ഒരു കുടുംബത്തിലെ കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾ പട്ടിണികൊണ്ടു കരഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കെ, അവരുടെ കാര്യം വിസ്മരിച്ചു പ്രായമായ അംഗങ്ങൾ കുടുംബത്തിലെ പൊതുസ്വത്തിനെ തങ്ങളുടെ സുഖസൌകര്യങ്ങൾക്കായി അധികം വ്യയം ചെയ്യുന്നതുപോലെയാണിത്.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റി പരീക്ഷാവിജയികൾ അധികം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതു നാട്ടിൻപുറത്തെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന് അധികം നന്നല്ലെ? മദ്രാസ് സർവകലാശാല നമുക്ക് ഉപകാരമില്ലെന്നു വരുന്നപക്ഷം പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു നമുക്ക് ഒരു കലാശാല ആവശ്യമില്ലെ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN: എല്ലാം ഒന്ന് എന്നു തുടങ്ങിവേണം ആരംഭിക്കുവാൻ. അടിയിൽ നിന്നു തുടങ്ങി മേലോട്ടു പണിയണം. നമ്മുടെ കഴുത്തുവരെ ചളിയിൽ പുതഞ്ഞുകിടക്കുമ്പോൾ, തല സ്വസ്ഥത്തിൽ മുട്ടണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു ശരിയാണൊ? ചളിയിൽനിന്നു നമ്മുടെ ശരീരത്തിന്റെ അധികഭാഗത്തേയും ഉയർത്തുവാനല്ലെ ആദ്യം ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടത്. അതിനാൽ നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിലെ നാട്ടുഭാഷാവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനും ഇംഗ്ലീഷുവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനും താണതരം സ്കൂളുകൾ ധാരാളം സ്ഥാപിച്ചു, ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസമില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിൽ നേരിട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന അനവധി ദോഷങ്ങൾക്കു പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാ

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ക്കുവാനും ഗതാഗതസൌകര്യം മുതലായവ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുവാനും ധനവ്യയം ചെയ്യുന്നതാണ് യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റിക്കായി ചിലവു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെസ്ഥിതിക്കു പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്ക് അധികഗുണപ്രദമായിരിക്കുന്നത്. മേൽപ്രസ്താവിച്ച കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഒരുവിധം നിർവഹിച്ചതിന്റെ ശേഷം പിന്നീടു ഗവർൺമെന്റിന്റെ ധനസ്ഥിതി അനുവദിക്കുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ അപ്പോൾ സർവകലാശാലയുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവർൺമെന്റ ഏർപ്പെടാവുന്നതാണ്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഏർപ്പെടുന്നത് ഒട്ടും ഉചിതമായിരിക്കയില്ല.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, let me begin by supporting the principle underlying the resolution so ably moved by my friend, Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai. It is a matter for special gratification that a desire for consistency, the "hobgoblin of little minds", has not affected Mr. Velu Pillai's attitude towards the movement for the establishment of a University for Travancore.

The idea of a University for Travancore has long been in the air. Dr. Mitchell first gave expression to the idea in his farewell speech in 1911. Sir Harold Stuart threw out a similar suggestion in his Convocation address. Professor Raja Raja Varma, in his speech on the occasion of the golden jubilee of vernacular education, advocated the establishment of a University for Kerala. During the late administration the matter may be said to have definitely emerged into the region of practical politics by the appointment of a University Committee. The labours of that Committee did not directly lead to any action in the matter; for, though the majority were in favour of the idea, it was felt that it would be filial ingratitude to set up an independent university until and unless we were driven out by the Madras University.

The reasons for the establishment of a separate University may be briefly summarised. There was the desire to escape from the shackles of the official Universities created by Lord Curzon's Commission. The conference of the Universities of the Empire at which Dr. Mitchell represented the Madras University, opened the eyes of India to the comparative fewness of Universities in this country as compared with Canada or Australia. Even in England there has latterly set in a tendency towards the disintegration of Universities and more Universities were founded during the last twenty years than during the previous five hundred. Two reasons which necessitate the creation of further Universities in India, are unique to this country. The first is that political provinces as well as Universities should be founded on a linguistic basis inasmuch as complete self-expression in education is possible only thereby. The findings of the Sadler Commission which advocated greater importance being attached to vernaculars, and the example of Japan where even on the scientific side it has been demon-

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[Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai.]

strated that higher education can be imparted in languages other than English have lent force to this movement. Secondly, the Indian Universities founded on the model of the old London University were merely examining bodies and it has been felt that they should be made residential and teaching Universities. This is not possible without the establishment of a number of Universities.

The resolution recommends that steps be taken towards the establishment of a University in Travancore. It has been rightly observed that we had rather voluntarily secede than be driven out. See Senate Resolution 15. I should think that the first thing that should be done in this direction is the formation of a committee to consider the situation in the light of the altered circumstances created by the Hon'ble Mr. Patro's Bill and by the weighty recommendations on higher education generally in India by the distinguished body of educationists who composed the Calcutta University Commission.

We have got here the elements, so to speak, of a University and the organisation of the agencies engaged in collegiate education. The opening of new chairs and the co-ordination of the work done in the several institutions can be effected without any stupendous outlay. Travancore to-day possesses considerably greater advantages than Mysore did when, a few years ago, Sir Visvesvaraya started the Mysore University. The bogey of finance does not terrify me as much as some of the opponents of the proposal. As Mr. Hodgson said the other day as President at a meeting of the College Debating Society when this question was under discussion, the question of finance should not present an insurmountable difficulty. For, as he pertinently observed, the Government were able to spend about Rs. 85 lakhs on the Kodayar Project from their current revenues at a time when their annual income was much less. If the administration possesses courage—this Government is not lacking in it—it should not be impossible to find the funds required for a University now when the resources of Government have been considerably enhanced and the expenditure required can well be spread over a number of years. As an eminent American educationist put it, the new Universities should not spend much upon brick and mortar and the estimate of Rs. 31 lakhs prepared by the University Committee is mostly to be spent upon buildings. There are one or two things which the Government should do before they embark on the University scheme. One deplorable circumstance which strikes any one looking at education in Travancore is the fact that it is not guided by experts. Education is fast becoming a technical subject and the war has wrought more changes in the fundamentals of education than in most other fields of human thought and activity. To my mind nothing can be a better investment than to secure the services of a real educationist even though we might have to pay him somewhat liberally. I would even go further and suggest that, if possible, an

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investigation of the educational conditions in Travancore and the formulation of a University should be entrusted to a Committee consisting of an educational expert like Sadler or Hopkinson.

We are spending more than one-sixth of our annual revenues on education and yet we entrust the destinies of the department to one who is neither by training nor attainments fit to take broad views on education, to one who by the accident of seniority inevitably drifts into the place of the Director of Public Instruction. Another deplorable aspect of education which has riveted my attention is the paucity among us of men with experience of collegiate education. It is significant that owing to the lack of foresight which characterised recruitment to the higher ranks of the educational service we are left without men who are able to advise us on matters pertaining to University education. Directors of Public Instruction, Principals and Professors are almost invariably foreigners and they leave Travancore on retirement. To remedy this disadvantage, one of the first things to be done is to send to other European countries and America annually batches of a dozen or more young men for higher studies with a view to their employment in service on return. There is no use in having a University of our own manned entirely by outsiders. Loan scholarships can be granted to them and their services can be secured on a much lower salary than will otherwise be possible; and we shall also be enabled to have the benefit of their experience.

Universities having to be founded on a linguistic basis, it is essential that Malabar and Cochin should be asked to join and there should be a Kerala University for the whole of the Malayalam-speaking country. There is a feeling which was manifested in the University Committee that the University should be located in a secluded place. I deprecate any such tendency, for we find that the modern Universities in England-Manchester, Liverpool and Bristol—are established in great industrial and commercial centres. There is what is called the duty of the University to the city and the interaction of the city on the University bodies. I do not believe in hot-house culture, and the cloistered seclusion of Oxford and Cambridge has not entirely been to their advantage.

Mr. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN ഗവർൺമെൻറു പണത്തിനു ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുള്ള ഇക്കാലത്തു യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിക്കായി ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന ധനം നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിലെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസമില്ലാത്ത ജനങ്ങളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു സാധാരണവിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനു വ്യയംചെയ്യുന്നതോ യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിക്കായി വ്യയംചെയ്യുന്നതോ പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്ക് അധികപ്രയോജനപ്രദം?

Mr. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റി പരീക്ഷാവിജയികളുണ്ടായാൽ നാട്ടിൻപുറത്തു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു സഹായമായിരിക്കും.

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[Mr. L. C. Hodgson.]

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN: അതല്ല എന്നെ ചോദ്യം.

PRESIDENT: His question is "which is more beneficial?"

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: ഞാൻ ഈ സംഗതി യെപ്പറ്റി മിസ്റ്റർ കുഞ്ഞിത്തൊമ്മനുമായി വാദിച്ചു മറൊരു അവസരത്തിൽ ബോധ്യപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളാം.

MR. L. C. HODGSON: Sir, I have listened with great interest to the speeches delivered by the members on the other side, especially that of Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai. I am very glad to find that my friend, Mr. Velu Pillai, has given a very great deal of thought to this matter. I cannot help remembering that, a year or two ago, some of us listened in this very hall to Mr. Velu Pillai's speech denouncing the idea of a University for Travancore.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: I said so then. Now, as the conditions have altered materially, a University is found necessary.

MR. L. C. HODGSON: That is exactly what I expected Mr. Velu Pillai to say. As a matter of fact the conditions have not altered. They were the same nearly ten years ago. But to-day they have come nearer.

In the year 1913 the Government of India passed a resolution in these words:

"It is our intention to create new teaching and residential Universities within each Province in harmony with the best modern opinion as to the right road to educational efficiency".

With this resolution in my mind, in recommending to the Government in my then capacity as Principal of His Highness the Maha Raja's College in 1913, that the Honors courses should be introduced in our College, I used these words:

"The staff of the Trivandrum College should be made so strong that, if a West Coast University should at any time be created, Trivandrum should be the obvious centre for it."

Thus, the disintegration of the large, unwieldy Universities of the several Provinces was in contemplation and was pronounced to be the declared policy of the Government of India several years ago; but it is only now that Mr. Velu Pillai has become alive to the fact. The position now is one in which we have got to face the disintegration of the Madras University. That this is so beyond a doubt is clear from the words of Dr. Macphail at the recent session of the Madras Legislative Council, which were as follows:

"The object of the Bill was to create a number of local teaching Universities. The sooner we made a beginning of having local Universities of the type described, the better for education in Southern India."

He looked forward to new Universities being established at an early date in Southern India.

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Mr. A. P. Patro too, in explaining the object of the Bill, said:

"The object of the Bill was to make a beginning in University reform and as a result of this Bill being passed into law, other University centres would develop in the Presidency as soon as possible".

That is the position in which we now stand, and it is in view of this position that Mr. Velu Pillai has brought forward this proposal

It will be remembered that a special Committee was appointed by Government in 1918 to draw up a scheme for a University in Travancore, and that, after holding several meetings and submitting an *interim* report, the Committee was disbanded, in view of the publication of the Report of the Calcutta University Commission, and the possible modifications of the University of Madras in consequence thereof.

We now know what Madras is going to do, and I fear what Madras is going to do will not be in the best interests of the mofussil colleges, as long as they remain attached to the Madras University. (*Hear, hear.*) But, Sir, in dealing with Mr. Velu Pillai's resolution, there are certain very difficult and intricate questions which must be thoroughly sifted and gone into before any decision can be arrived at. I may say at once that I am not in favour of the idea he has put forward, which I should describe as the "notice board" type of University. You cannot make a University by putting up a notice board bearing the inscription "University of Travancore", and by this process transforming the existing institutions, *viz.*, the Arts College, the Law College, the Women's College, the Ayurvedic College, etc., etc., into a University. I do not myself think that this is the solution of the question, although I support Mr. Velu Pillai's proposal to add the Commandant's bungalow and compound to the College premises at once. The points that have to be considered very very carefully are, first of all, whether, if it is decided to start the University, it should be for Travancore alone or whether it should be for the whole Kerala country. I believe the Madras University contemplates the creation of Universities in linguistic areas. The establishment of a University in the Andhra country is in contemplation and another on the North-West coast for the Kanarese people, and in this part of the country, Travancore, Cochin and British Malabar constitute a linguistic area for the Malayalam people. It has to be considered—very carefully considered—whether a University for this State alone or whether, according to the suggestion thrown out by one of the members, a University to include the State of Cochin and the District of Malabar, is to be founded. This raises interstatal questions which will have to be gone into very carefully. This is one matter which presents a very great difficulty.

Secondly, even if it is decided that a University should be located in Travancore—I mean to say for Travancore alone—then the question as to whether it should be located in the capital of the State or whether it should be elsewhere has to be considered.

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[Mr. L. C. Hodgson.]

Again, the type of University—whether it is to be one of the unitary type, or of the affiliating type, embracing the Second Grade Colleges at Alwaye, Nagercoil and Kottayam—must be carefully considered.

There is one more important question. That is the question of finance. That, I think, is a very difficult matter, notwithstanding what, as Mr. G. Paramesvaran Pillai reminds me, I said at the College recently, *viz.*, that the Government spent nearly Rs.85 lakhs on the Kodayar Project, spreading it over many years, and that a similar thing might be done with regard to education. But we have to remember this. In 1913 and 1918 when the question was taken up for consideration we hoped that prosperous years would come. But now-a-days, as we go on year by year, each year seems to be leaner than the year before, and we seem never to get out of financial difficulty. The question of finance, therefore, is one which will have to be gone into. I do not agree with those who say that a University is not going to cost a lot of money. You will have to have everything of the very best obtainable. You must have the very best staff, buildings, laboratories, equipment, and in addition, all those facilities for communal life, both indoor and outdoor, which play such an important part in the activities of a University. Unless you have all those things and of the very best, you will produce graduates whom the outside world will scoff at and whose degrees the world will not honor. In the case of the new Mysore University I may inform the House that the Syndicate of the Madras University refused to recognise the degrees issued by that University.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I wish to tell Mr. Hodgson that a very eminent gentleman who has an Indian reputation and whose name I do not propose to mention has written to me thus:

"The Madras University is being rapidly metamorphosed and, if Travancore will not voluntarily secede, it will practically be driven out. After all, a country with a population of over 4 million souls and with such a high record of literacy is pre eminently fitted to have a University of its own. Mysore was not anything so prepared and yet Sir Visvesvaraya had no hesitation in starting the Mysore University, *and it is doing well.* Pray, don't believe what you may possibly hear, *viz*, that the Mysore University is *not* satisfactory. It *is* satisfactory, and, as time elapses, it is bound to be even more so".

MR. L. C. HODGSON: I am very much interested in what Mr Velu Pillai says, but I can assure him that my statement that the Syndicate refused to recognise the degrees of the Mysore University is no fairy tale, as a resolution to that effect was passed at a meeting of the Syndicate at which I was myself present. I would say therefore that there are a number of very difficult matters that have to be considered. I accordingly suggest on behalf of Government that a fresh committee be appointed to go into the whole matter. The former committee was disbanded by an order of Government in 1919, after having done valuable work, which I can say without presumption, as I myself had gone on furlough before their report was submitted. I would now suggest that a fresh committee be appointed to investigate, enquire and examine all these questions, some of which I have mentioned and those which

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will no doubt present themselves to such a committee. I would now ask Mr. Velu Pillai if he would be satisfied with the appointment of a new committee.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I shall consult my other friends and inform the House.

The Council rose for lunch at 2-20 P. M.

The Council met again at 3 P. M.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: The general movement throughout India for the creation of Universities suited to the conditions and requirements of different Provinces, the likelihood of the reorganisation of the Madras University in the immediate future and the imperative necessity of finding out a University for our purposes, our large and growing population and the increasing number of students seeking admission in our colleges and schools, the present number and the growing strength of the educational institutions of this country and the already existing facilities for the creation of a separate University of our own all these are considerations which contribute to create a conviction in our minds that the time has arrived for a serious consideration of the question whether we have not reached a stage at which the establishment of a separate University has become a necessity for us.

The University Committee which was constituted by the Government in 1917 held its sittings and seems to have prepared the report before the report of the Sadler Committee was published and before the recent changes pointed out had taken place. In the opinion of the dissenting members of that committee which submitted an *interim* report there was no necessity for the creation of a separate local University and the reasons which seem to have weighed with them were the following:

(1) that our present connection with the University of Madras more than meets the requirements of the public service and of the legal profession in the State;

(2) that there was no real or genuine demand for a University;

(3) that the revenues of the State will not permit a diversion of funds sufficient for the establishment and maintenance of a University on the scale on which alone an institution of that kind is worth having; and

(4) that under present conditions a University established in Travancore cannot perform its functions properly and cannot command the respect of the outside world, if it is not governed and manned by men from outside.

In the opinion of the dissenting members of this committee, the scheme had to be deferred "till this State is compelled by circumstances beyond local control to create a University of its own."

It will be evident from the changes now proposed to be made in the constitution of the Madras University that the main objection to the proposal to create a University of our own ceases to have any force.

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[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai.]

Madras is trying to establish a University which is bound to restrict the extent of its present jurisdiction and we shall not wait to be told that she may find it inconvenient to satisfy our requirements by keeping up the present connection. The action of the Madras legislature in taking up the question is sufficient notice to us to break off the existing relation sooner or later. The idea that we shall be forced to sever our present relations with the Madras University now or hereafter has already begun to spread and I hope the proposal now brought forward is acceptable to the majority of the people.

The fears entertained by the committee on account of the financial aspects of the proposal seem to me to be on the whole unfounded. The committee thought that a provision for a capital outlay of Rs. 61 lakhs and a recurring expenditure of Rs. 11 lakhs of rupees was necessary for the purpose; and they arrived at the enormous figure of Rs. 315 lakhs of rupees by capitalising the recurring expenditure at 3½ per cent. It is impossible to imagine that this estimate is based upon any moderate and reasonable calculation. A University on a modest scale with a limited number of faculties could be started without such a large expenditure and it is not likely that the capital outlay in such a case will exceed 6 or 7 lakhs of rupees. It has to be remembered that we have the advantage of numerous well-equipped educational institutions in the State and that Intermediate College classes could be opened in the numerous existing higher grade secondary schools scattered throughout the country. Under these circumstances there appears to be no justification for the belief entertained by the dissenting members of the committee that the State is not in a position to provide the funds necessary for the establishment and maintenance of a University suitable for our purposes.

The invitation to outside scholars to co-operate in University work does not mean that the business of the institution is to be carried on by foreign agency; it only guarantees the efficiency and reputation of the University. There is a common feeling of brotherhood among scholars throughout the world and international exchange of service is so usual among them that we shall have the privilege of securing the services of scholars from other parts of India and even from the remotest parts of the world. The more this wholesome influence is availed of, the more will it enhance the usefulness and prestige of the University.

About the kind of University that may be suitable to us no discussion is necessary at present as we are in a position to deliberately make our own choice after carefully considering the several proposals now made and discussed all over India.

I believe we have arrived at a stage at which we are compelled to have a University of our own, that on account of the rapid progress of education in this country a separate University is a necessity for us, that financial and other considerations need not deter us from considering this question, and that, in short, there is ample scope, as well as necessity and resource, in this State for the establishment of a separate University of our own.

I, therefore, support the resolution.

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MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: In rising to support the resolution before the House I do not wish to go over the grounds already placed before the House for its acceptance, nor do I think it necessary to meet the opposition that has been offered to it. All this opposition appears so weak and feeble, on the face of it, as not to call for any contradiction or refutation. It has been practically admitted on the official side that a committee may be appointed, and since the idea ought to be, as far as possible, to establish a pan-Kerala University, I would only suggest and bring to the notice of Mr. Hodgson, the advisability of forming a committee not only of Travancoreans but also of experts in Cochin and British Malabar. This fact may be borne in mind when Mr. Hodgson proposes to appoint a committee. That is all that I have to say on this resolution.

MR. K. C. RAJA RAJA VARMA: Sir, in gladly supporting the resolution, so ably and eloquently moved by my friend, Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai, I would point out that all the details regarding the locality are only of secondary importance when the principle of establishing a University has been once accepted. All these details could be decided very easily by the committee which will be appointed in pursuance of the resolution. The whole thing depends upon the confidence and the respect which the committee would command at the hands of the public of Malabar. My idea is that Travancore should take the lead in this matter, because it occupies a position in which it is only proper that it should do so. Travancore, in point of resources, and of everything else, is in a more advantageous position than Cochin. So, I would point out that Travancore should take the lead in order that a pan-Kerala University may be successful. Travancore must try to win the public opinion of Cochin and British Malabar and make the people of those countries understand that this is a University intended not for Travancore alone but for the whole of Kerala. In creating such an impression, I strongly urge upon the Government to form a committee to which the prominent representatives of all these countries are appointed, so that the committee may get the strongest public opinion in the whole of Kerala.

MR. A. GOVINDA MENON: Sir, I am one of those who, but for the situation that has been created by the Madras University Bill, would not have supported this motion. As it is, I find no alternative but to support it; but in supporting it, I wish to say thus much. The foremost question that now, in point of practical politics, touches this matter is the question of finance. In the present state of our finances, I think it is not very easy to equip a University in the best manner possible. Under the circumstances, the co-operation, if it can be obtained, also of British Malabar and Cochin, it must be our object to seek first, and only on failing to obtain it, should we undertake to establish a separate University for ourselves. There is one more point to which I wish to urge the attention of Government, *i. e.*, that in appointing a committee, at least one or two of those who are acquainted with University life in India should be sent

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[Mr. Trivikramar Vasudevar.]

to foreign countries to study the constitution of the Universities there so that the experience thus gained might be utilised in formulating a constitution for our University. Of course this step would entail some expense, but in my opinion, the expense is worth the gain.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: I also support the principle of the resolution and in doing so I wish to point out that the committee going to be constituted must be distinctly told that its ideal should be to establish a University different from what Mr. Hodgson would call a notice board University. It must be a first class University. When we take into consideration the fact that Cochin and British Malabar also might join hands with us in this matter, it is for the committee to consider whether Alwaye would not be a more central place for locating the University and better suited for the purpose than Trivandrum or Aruvikkara.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: I also support the principle of the motion brought forward by my friend, Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai. As there is an offer from the official side for the appointment of a committee to go into the whole question, I would leave everything else for the committee to discuss. But I wish to mention one or two points for the consideration of the committe. In the first place, our attempt should be to create an all-Kerala University, if possible; and the second thing is that the proposed University should be one the graduates of which should not be rejected by the Madras University Syndicate as was done whth regard to the graduates of some other University just referred to by Mr. Hodgson.

THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALLI: From the tone of the question put by Professor K. V. Rangaswami Aiyangar, I undertood that, after the Bill in the Madras Legislative Council about the University got passed, it would be difficult for us to have our colleges affiliated to that University. If it is so, it is high time for us to start a University of our own.

PRESIDENT: He was referring to the London and Cambridge Universities—not to the Madras University.

THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALLI: So we may still be in a position to affiliate our colleges?

MR. L. C. HODGSON: Yes.

THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALLI: Even otherwise I support the motion. The necessity for a University for Kerala has been urged by the people for the past so many years.

MR. TRIVIKRAMAR VASUDEVAR: ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ പിൻ താങ്ങുന്നു.

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MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Sir, after the brilliant speeches of Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai and Mr. G. Paramesvaran Pillai, and the acceptance of the principle of the resolution by Mr. Hodgson, I do not think that there is any special pleading necessary for proving the necessity of a University. I only want to correct one or two ideas. Mr. Daniel said that the University might not have the hall-mark of the Madras University, and that, therefore, students from this University might not have the necessary passport throughout India and other countries. I think that this is a presumption that is unwarranted. There is no reason to think that our hall-mark will in any way be inferior to that of any other University, considering that we have brilliant educationists even now like Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar, who will be ornaments to the proposed University in Travancore.

Let not the bogey of expenditure frighten us. The ways and means will be found if the Government and the people act whole-heartedly together.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN: I support the resolution of my friend whole-heartedly, if the scheme is to be worked out by a committee.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR: Sir, I do not oppose the motion. Considering the value of education, it is highly necessary; but University education is a luxury, and the funds must come from the people. That is my opinion.

PRESIDENT: Louder, please.

MR. S SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR: If a University is to be established in Travancore, the necessary funds must come from the people.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: In regard to the funds, we expect large and rich endowments from gentlemen like Mr. Karayalar himself.

MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR: Yes, certainly. We will do it. Let the rich people co-operate with me. Let not the poor suffer. I propose that one year's revenue should be given as subscription for the University.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: I am very happy to find that there is complete agreement between Mr. Hodgson and myself on the immediate necessity of considering the question of establishing a University for Travancore. On earlier occasions there was some difference of opinion; and, as Mr. Hodgson has not forgotten to enlighten this Council, I had spoken against the idea of a Travancore University. Sir, as I pointed out during the debates on the budget, the action of the Madras Government has created a new state of affairs and I shall not advocate a principle which I advocated with reference to a different set of circumstances. Even otherwise I shall not be sorry to accept Mr. Hodgson's view when it is proved to be correct. Mr. Hodgson's reputation for correctness of

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[Mr. M. R. Madhava Variar.]

views and principle is a portion of his earthly possessions and students are in a sense the academic descendants of the teachers. There is, therefore, nothing that is wrong or unworthy of me, if I concede the superiority of my professor's prophecy and power to read the future. It is only in the fitness of things if I lay claim to a portion of the wordly credit of an old professor in a matter of opinion which is not subject to a monopoly. Therefore, I am particularly happy to accept the kind offer made by the Director of Public Instruction on behalf of the Government. I am sure that this matter will receive the very prompt and sympathetic attention of Government. With these observations, I withdraw the motion.

Leave was granted, and the resolution was withdrawn

RESOLUTION *RE.* APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR: Sir, I beg to move the following resolution:

'That this Council recommends to Government that Standing Committees of non-official members of this Council be appointed to advise and help important departments of the State".

I move this resolution with a view to make the reform of the Council more effective and to realise the noble expectations of our august Sovereign contained in the memorable message to this Council at its inauguration. The last sentence in His Highness the Maha Raja's message is worthy of quotation at this juncture:

"I look up with confidence to you and the officers of my Government to work in harmony trying your best to understand each other and in a spirit of confidence and sympathy making the welfare of my beloved subjects your common concern ".

It is in humble obedience to the behest of my Sovereign and with a desire to achieve it in the shortest possible time that I venture to move this modest resolution which, I am sure, will meet with cordial response from all sides of this House. If there should be harmony between the officials and the non-officials, if a spirit of confidence and sympathy is to be engendered in us, we must understand each other and strive with a common purpose and determination for the welfare of His Highness the Maha Raja's devoted subjects whom we have the honour to represent in this Council. The success of this Council and of our endeavours entirely depends on the way how we understand each other. The object of appointing Standing Committees of the members of this House is to study the working of various departments, and to understand the intricacies and difficulties of administration so that we, the non-official members, may approach administrative questions with an amount of information and responsibility. I am led to believe that most of the non-official members of this Council find it difficult to appreciate the mentality of the official world to sympathise with the aims and policies of the Government and so we are often led to range ourselves

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